Deputationists in the National Airports Authority

1724. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 8000 employees were appointed on deputation in the National Airports Authority from 1st June, 1986 onwards;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these deputationists have neither been absorbed in the National Airports Authority so far nor they have been paid deputation allowance; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Under the National Airports Authority Act, 1985 about 8000 employees holding office under the DGCA were treated as on deputation with the NAA and were to hold office in the Authority on the same terms & conditions of service. These employees are to be given option by the NAA for absorption in regular service of the Authority. Terms of absorption are to be finalised.

Applications for passport with passport offices in Jalandhar and Chandigarh

1725. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for passports received, rejected and pending and the number of passports issued by the Regional Passport Offices of Jalandhar and Chandigarh during the last five years;

(b) the reasons for keeping the applications pending and for their rejection;

(c) the number of passports issued by the above passport offices within one month, two months, three months, four months, five months and above, of the receipt of application during the last two years; and

(d) whether Government are taking steps to ensure that passports are issued within one or two months of the receipt of an application?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) Information is being collected.

(d) Steps have been taken to ensure issue of passports within 5 working days after receipt of clear police reports. Concerned authorities have also been requested to expedite police reports of passport applicants.

Public and private passengers transport vehicles in Punjab

1726. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of vehicles under Punjab Roadways and PRTC and the number of private passenger transport vehicles plying in Punjab;

(b) what is the amount of passenger tax that has been paid by public sector road transport and the private sector road transport companies during the last five years;

(c) whether the transport workers have submitted any memorandum to Government regarding improvement of public sector transport and regarding the evasion of passenger tax by the private companies; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of passenger vehicles under Punjab Roadways, PRTC and Private Operation are as under:—

Puujab Roadways	PRTC	Private passenger transport	Municipal Corporation
2346	1075	2651	100